के उपबन्धों के प्रवर्तन के लिए उत्तरदायी हैं, अनुदेश दिए गए हैं कि वे कारखाना निरीक्षणालयों को सुदृढ करें और निरीक्षण की पद्धति को सरल और तारगर बनाये। एक व्यापक सुरक्षा और स्वास्थ्य दुर्घटना न्यूनीकरण कार्रवाई योजना भी राज्य सरकारों को भेज दी गई है ताकि वे जोखिमपूर्ण रसायनिक संयंत्रों में सुरक्षा स्तरों की देख-रेख करने के लिए श्रम विभागों में सुरक्षा सैल स्थापित करके उचित निवारक उपाय करें। राज्य सरकारों और संघ प्रशासनों ने इसे नोट कर लिया है और इस मामले में उचित कार्रवाई कर रहे हैं।

Decline in the number of Actuaries in India

2228. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Actuaries in India is fast declining;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the total number of Actuaries in India at present and what steps Government have taken or are taking to give incentive for the study of this Actuarial science; and

(d) what is the number of colleges or institutions, Statewise where this subject is being taught at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI). (a) to (d) The number of Actuaries in India over the last few years is apparently stationary. There has been, however, a decline in the number of new entrants to the field.

There are no institutions in India imparting actuarial education and the students have to take up the examination of the Institute of Actuaries, London. According to the findings of the Statistics Panel of UGC, taking up of the examinations for the Fellowship of Institute of Actuaries, London, has of late become very expensive by way of costly tuition fees, course materials, annual subscription fees and examination fees. Indian students also find it difficult to take up these examinations of London which are based essentially on the conditions and practice obtaining in the U.K.

The total number of Actuaries in India as at the end of 1985 is 196. The Life Insurance Corporation of India which is the principal employer of Actuaries have been giving facilities to its employees for prosecuting actuarial studies by way of reimbursement of annual subscription to the Institute of Actuaries, London, of the examination fees; and also of the fees paid for actuarial tuition courses.

Actuarial Society of India is planning to conduct their examinations for Indian students. The UGC is also apprised of the need to introduce actuarial courses in different universities and they have approved proposals from three colleges in Maharashtra for introducing 'Insurance and Actutrial Science' as an elective subjet at first degree level.

Steps to keep F.C.I. Godowns clean

2229. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has launched a drive to keep its grain-filled godowns spick and span; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A check list has been prescribed for tidiness and up-keep of FCI depots which includes essential fea-

tures of tidiness such as collection of spillage of foodgrains, white washing and repairs of godowns, removal of shrubs, grass and other refuse from the depot premises, cleaning of drains etc. Periodic inspection are carried out regularly by the officers of different levels to ensure that each and every depot is maintained according to the prescribed check list.

Price of Rubber in Kerala

2230. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rubber growers in Kerala are not getting suitable price for their produce;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to explore new market for rubber in foreign countries for helping the rubber growers in getting a better price; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Medical Facilities to Beedi Workers

2231. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide special medical facilities to the beedi workers in the country who are suffering from leprosy; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are being worked out.

Retention of concession allowed to Book Publishers under the Income Tax Act

2232. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that concessions allowed to book publishers under section 80 QQ of the Income Tax Act have been withdrawn in the last year's Budget;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the National Council of Applied Economic Research had recommended in its report the retention of section 80 QQ or the rebate enjoyed under it by the publishers;

(c) whether it is also fact that the National Book Development Board had also recommended the continuation of this section 80;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the withdrawal of this section has been causing hardship to the publishers; and

(e) whether in view of the above, Government propose to extend section 80 QQ for a period of three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir, if the Hon'ble Member's Question relates to section 80 QQ.

(d) Some publishers have represented that the withdrawal of this section is causing some hardship to them. However, the benefit is availed of by only 1/5th of the total number of publishers as mentioned in the report of the National Council of Applied Economic Research for 1983. The report also says that this concession is availed of by the better off